(c) the present position of construction of buildings of each faculty of the University proposed to be opened in North-Eastern States?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At the headquarter, the construction work is in progress for the girls and boys hostels, one Departmental Block, Selected staff residences and one Administrative Block.

The construction of main Headquarter, building could not be started mainly because the requisite suitable land has not been transferred by the Manipur Govt. to CAU.

(c) Out of seven college buildings, those of the Colleges of Agriculture, Fisheries, Veterinary are under construction. Their progress is as under:—

(i) College of Agricultrue, Imphal

— Girls' Hostel completed and occupied.

— Boy's Hostel under construction and likely to be completed in March, 2001.

— Administrative block, in which library is located, likely to be completed by 30th August, 2000.

(ii) College of Fisheries at Agartala, the boys' and girls' hostel and the residentrial quarters are expected to be completed in December, 2000.

(iii) The Veterinary College at Mizoram is expected to be completed in March, 2001.

Other college building construction has not been started due to non-transfer of land by the State Government concerned.

Improvement of India's Relations with USA After Clinton's visit

*392. SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY :

SHRI C.P THIRUNAVUKKARASU :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether President Bill Clinton's visit to India in March, 2000, contributed to better ties between India and the USA;

(b) whether USA's perception of the cross border terrorism and India's compulsions in not signing the CTBT were discussed with him;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government would institutionalise high-level dialogues and economic opportunities between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. President Clinton's visit marks a significant and an important step in the process of establishing a broad-based and forward looking relationship between the two countries. In a Joint Statement signed on 21st March, Prime Minister and President Clinton outlined their vision of the relationship between India and the United States. They expressed the resolve of the two countries to create a closer and qualitatively new relationship, based on equality, mutual respect and benefit.

(b) and (c) The two side discussed all subjects of mutual concern, including bilateral, regional and international issues. There is now a better appreciation by the United States of the source and nature of cross-border terrorism in India. The two sides expressed their determination to intensify co-operation in combating terrorism. Government also explained the principles of India's nuclear policy and the reasons that compel India to maintain a credible minimum nuclear deterrent. The two sides assessed positively their ongoing dialogue on security and non-proliferation and agreed to continue the dialogue for further increasing mutual understanding and narrowing differences on these issues. President Clinton acknowledged that India's decision with regard to CTBT would be based on the outcome of the democratic process in the country.

(d) As part of the vision of the new relationship outlined by Prime Minister and President Clinton, the two sides have agreed on an architecture of a regular, wide-ranging institutional dialogue between the two countries. Prime Minister and the US President will hold regular bilateral 'summits'. There will also be regular dialogues on foreign policy and security matters at the ministerial and official levels. A strong institutional framework has also been created for dialogue on economic and commercial issues, counter-terrorism, energy and environment, science and technology.